

RECOGNIZE THE PARTICIPATION
OF THE MINNESOTA NATIONAL
GUARD IN THE INAUGURATION
OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, one week ago today Barack Obama was sworn in as the 44th President of the United States.

Millions flooded into Washington, DC to witness this historic occasion, presenting law enforcement authorities with an enormous logistical and security challenge.

To meet this challenge, the selfless men and women of Minnesota's National Guard came to Washington to assist with the Presidential Inauguration and to ensure the safety of the President as well as everyone present for inaugural festivities.

The superlative conduct and ability of Minnesota's guardsmen helped to make certain the ceremony and surrounding events occurred as safely as possible for all attendees, despite the many obstacles present in such a complex undertaking.

And so it is my honor to recognize and pay tribute to all the brave citizen-soldiers of the Minnesota National Guard. Their exceptional service during our President's inauguration is a true source of pride for all Minnesotans, as

is the Guard's continuing and unbroken tradition of noble service to our State and country.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE SHAIN

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, there are all kinds of public servants in our communities, but we seldom think first of journalists in that category. In the Eighth Congressional District of Southern Missouri, a journalist springs to mind as a public servant: Mike Shain of KFVS in Cape Girardeau. Mr. Shain is retiring after 53 years in the news businesses (the last 37 at KFVS), and I want to commend him to the U.S. House of Representatives for his long labors in the service of our region, our state and our nation.

Though the craft of news reporting has changed greatly in the time Mr. Shain has spent in the business, his fair reporting, his work ethic, and his professionalism have remained constant. Everyone who has looked at Mr. Shain over a microphone or across a table on the set of his weekly news magazine knows they have better done their homework. Mr. Shain takes preparedness to another level—he knows his subject matter and his audience inside-out.

Whole generations in Southeast Missouri have grown up with the informed voice of Mr. Shain in their ears. He has not only conveyed to us the news of the day, but he has also placed that news in context for his viewership. He has told us what is important as well as why. He has always had something important to say, which is a tough thing to do when most of your sentences end in a question mark. Still, Mr. Shain has been so successful and is so respected because his intellect is only surpassed by his understanding of the news media and its responsibilities to the public.

In service to the public, Mr. Shain has shaped minds and informed opinions among an electorate in Southern Missouri which is serious about its civic duty, patriotic obligations and the well-being of its neighbors. His name is synonymous with the news—with what is current and worth understanding. As much as the station that broadcasts him, Mike Shain is an institution.

Even though regular viewers of our evening news will no longer see Mr. Shain every day, his presence will continue to be seen and heard in the generations of newsmen and newswomen who have learned their craft from him. Mr. Shain's voice will be missed across the Heartland, but his legacy will endure. I'm proud to have known and worked with Mr. Shain, and I am glad to thank him on behalf of the entire Eighth Congressional District of the State of Missouri.